

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 are currently pending. Claim 1 is amended. No new matter is presented. The above amendments and following remarks are considered by Applicants to overcome the objections and rejections raised by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicants request the reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-3.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Horita et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/014323 A1) in view of Kamata et al. (Japanese Patent No. 03-144924). The Examiner takes the position that the combination of Horita and Kamata teaches and/or suggests all the features recited in claims 1 and 2. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Horita is directed to an optical pickup device that includes a lens for projecting a light onto a recording medium, a lens holder elastically supported by a frame and holding the lens. An actuator is mounted in and drives the lens holder. Horita further discloses a weight 48 to damp the vibration of the lens holder 14 which is bonded and fixed to the concave part 14d at the front end portion of the lens holding portion. The weight 48 is fixed on the concave part 14d, and supported in the focusing direction. As a result, in the invention of Horita, it would be difficult to absorb the vibrations in the focusing direction. It would be difficult to absorb the vibrations because the attaching face of the weight 48 is formed in the tracking direction and is not formed in the focusing direction.

Kamata is directed to an objective lens driving device for optical pickup to relieve or eliminate high-order resonance by fitting a damping member to an objective lens holder via an adhesive member having viscosity so that a mounting face is made in parallel with a vibration resonance direction by the driving control of the objective lens.

Claims 1 and 2 are amended to recite the lens holding portion being formed as a flat surface and includes a wide portion that extends at an equal width from the coil holding portion, and a side portion which inclines inwardly and widely from the border with the wide portion, and a front portion which is shaped to border with the side portion along the outer circumstance of the objective lens.

It is respectfully submitted that the combination of Horita and Kamata fails to teach or suggest that the lens holding portion is formed as provided in the claimed invention. Specifically, Horita does not teach or suggest the amended features of claim 1. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of Horita and Kamata fails to teach or suggest this feature. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

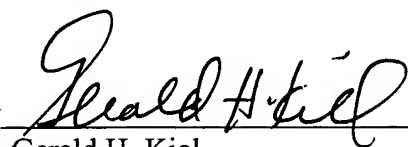
Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Horita, Kamata and further in view of Naraoka et al. The Examiner takes the position that the combination of Horita, Kamata and Naraoka teach or suggest all the features recited in claim 3. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Claim 3 is dependent upon independent claims 2. In view of the above amendments to claim 2, Applicants submit that claim 3, due to its dependency on claim 2, recites subject matter that is neither taught nor suggested by the applied references. In particular, it is submitted that Naraoka fails to cure the deficiencies of Horita. Therefore, Applicants request the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

In view of the above amendments and remarks presented, it is respectfully requested that all of the claims be reconsidered and allowed. If the Examiner believes that additional issues need to be resolved before this application can be passed to issue, the undersigned invites the Examiner to contact him at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

By



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